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U.S. Census Bureau News

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Nation Adds 3 Million People in Last Year; Nevada Again Fastest-Growing State

The nation's population grew by 1.0 percent (2.9 million people) between July 1, 2003, and July 1, 2004, to 293.7 million, according to estimates released today by the U.S. Census Bureau. With a growth rate of 4.1 percent, Nevada ranked first among states for the 18th consecutive year.

Four nearby states joined Nevada on the list of the nation's 10 fastest-growing: Arizona (second), Idaho (fourth), Utah (seventh) and New Mexico (10th). The remaining top 10 fastest-growing states are all coastal: Florida (third), Georgia (fifth), Texas (sixth), Delaware (eighth) and North Carolina (ninth). (See attached table.)
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North Carolina and New Mexico replaced California and Hawaii on the list of the top 10 fastest-growing states this year.

Of the 10 fastest-growing states from 2003 to 2004, five are in the West and five in the South. The South now accounts for 36 percent of the nation's total population, with the West comprising 23 percent, the Midwest 22 percent and the Northeast 19 percent.

California remained the most populous state in the nation with 35.9 million people in 2004. The second and third most populous states were Texas (22.5 million) and New York (19.2 million).

Other highlights:

- The nation's 10 most populous states accounted for 54 percent of the nation's population on July 1, 2004.
- The 10 fastest-growing states accounted for 49 percent of the national growth from 2003 to 2004.
- Of the 10 most populous states in 2004, three (New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey) are in the Northeast,

three (Illinois, Ohio, Michigan) in the Midwest, three (Texas, Florida, Georgia) in the South and one (California) in the West.

- While the South had the largest numerical increase in population among regions from 2003 to 2004 (1.5 million), the West recorded the fastest rate of growth (1.5 percent).

The population estimate for Puerto Rico for July 1, 2004, was 3.9 million, up about 17,000 since July 1, 2003. Puerto Rico's rate of increase was 0.4 percent.

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U S C E N S U S B U R E A U
Helping You Make Informed Decisions

Source: U.S. Census Bureau | Public Information Office | (301) 763-3030

Table 1: Annual Estimates of the Population for the United States and States, and for Puerto Rico: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2004								
Geographic Area	Population estimates						April 1, 2000	
	July 1, 2004	July 1, 2003	July 1, 2002	July 1, 2001	July 1, 2000	Estimates base	Census	
United States	293,655,404	290,788,976	287,941,220	285,102,075	282,192,162	281,424,602	281,421,906	
Alabama	4,530,182	4,503,726	4,481,078	4,468,031	4,452,307	4,447,351	4,447,100	
Alaska	655,435	648,280	640,841	632,389	627,504	626,931	626,932	
Arizona	5,743,834	5,579,222	5,439,091	5,296,845	5,165,944	5,130,632	5,130,632	
Arkansas	2,752,629	2,727,774	2,707,509	2,692,134	2,678,501	2,673,398	2,673,400	
California	35,893,799	35,462,712	34,988,261	34,532,163	34,002,467	33,871,653	33,871,648	
Colorado	4,601,403	4,547,633	4,498,077	4,427,288	4,327,020	4,302,015	4,301,261	
Connecticut	3,503,604	3,486,960	3,459,006	3,433,243	3,412,262	3,405,602	3,405,565	
Delaware	830,364	818,166	806,105	795,633	786,441	783,600	783,600	
District of Columbia	553,523	557,620	564,643	569,408	571,045	572,059	572,059	
Florida	17,397,161	16,999,181	16,681,144	16,353,565	16,048,833	15,982,824	15,982,378	
Georgia	8,829,383	8,676,460	8,539,735	8,391,282	8,230,087	8,186,816	8,186,453	
Hawaii	1,262,840	1,248,755	1,234,514	1,222,011	1,212,109	1,211,537	1,211,537	
Idaho	1,393,262	1,367,034	1,343,194	1,321,228	1,299,677	1,293,956	1,293,953	
Illinois	12,713,634	12,649,087	12,585,204	12,518,441	12,439,674	12,419,647	12,419,293	
Indiana	6,237,569	6,199,571	6,158,327	6,127,732	6,091,945	6,080,517	6,080,485	
Iowa	2,954,451	2,941,976	2,934,776	2,931,593	2,928,435	2,926,382	2,926,324	
Kansas	2,735,502	2,724,786	2,712,896	2,701,233	2,692,651	2,688,824	2,688,418	
Kentucky	4,145,922	4,118,189	4,089,985	4,067,781	4,048,993	4,042,285	4,041,769	
Louisiana	4,515,770	4,493,665	4,477,042	4,466,532	4,469,635	4,468,958	4,468,976	
Maine	1,317,253	1,309,205	1,297,750	1,286,633	1,277,393	1,274,923	1,274,923	
Maryland	5,558,058	5,512,310	5,441,531	5,379,450	5,311,508	5,296,506	5,296,486	
Massachusetts	6,416,505	6,420,357	6,412,554	6,395,414	6,362,127	6,349,105	6,349,097	
Michigan	10,112,620	10,082,364	10,042,495	10,004,710	9,956,091	9,938,480	9,938,444	
Minnesota	5,100,958	5,064,172	5,025,081	4,985,666	4,933,750	4,919,492	4,919,479	
Mississippi	2,902,966	2,882,594	2,867,635	2,858,325	2,848,733	2,844,656	2,844,658	
Missouri	5,754,618	5,719,204	5,679,770	5,642,575	5,606,246	5,596,683	5,595,211	
Montana	926,865	918,157	910,670	906,241	903,500	902,195	902,195	
Nebraska	1,747,214	1,737,475	1,726,437	1,718,840	1,713,239	1,711,265	1,711,263	
Nevada	2,334,771	2,242,207	2,168,304	2,095,235	2,018,214	1,998,257	1,998,257	
New Hampshire	1,299,500	1,288,705	1,275,607	1,259,183	1,240,553	1,235,786	1,235,786	
New Jersey	8,698,879	8,642,412	8,577,250	8,506,267	8,433,613	8,414,347	8,414,350	
New Mexico	1,903,289	1,878,562	1,855,143	1,832,335	1,821,496	1,819,046	1,819,046	
New York	19,227,088	19,212,425	19,151,066	19,085,862	18,998,743	18,976,821	18,976,457	
North Carolina	8,541,221	8,421,190	8,311,899	8,198,256	8,078,373	8,046,491	8,049,313	
North Dakota	634,366	633,400	633,799	636,326	641,140	642,204	642,200	

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Ohio	11,459,011	11,437,680	11,410,396	11,387,860	11,363,803	11,353,145	11,353,140	
Oklahoma	3,523,553	3,506,469	3,488,201	3,466,533	3,454,300	3,450,654	3,450,654	
Oregon	3,594,586	3,564,330	3,523,281	3,474,161	3,431,066	3,421,436	3,421,399	
Pennsylvania	12,406,292	12,370,761	12,328,459	12,298,487	12,286,268	12,281,054	12,281,054	
Rhode Island	1,080,632	1,076,084	1,068,897	1,058,604	1,050,738	1,048,319	1,048,319	
South Carolina	4,198,068	4,148,744	4,105,848	4,061,209	4,023,548	4,011,816	4,012,012	
South Dakota	770,883	764,905	760,452	758,217	755,733	754,840	754,844	
Tennessee	5,900,962	5,845,208	5,792,297	5,748,038	5,703,038	5,689,262	5,689,283	
Texas	22,490,022	22,103,374	21,723,220	21,334,855	20,949,136	20,851,790	20,851,820	
Utah	2,389,039	2,352,119	2,319,743	2,281,161	2,243,164	2,233,198	2,233,169	
Vermont	621,394	619,343	616,500	612,964	609,941	608,827	608,827	
Virginia	7,459,827	7,365,284	7,273,572	7,185,522	7,104,033	7,079,030	7,078,515	
Washington	6,203,788	6,131,298	6,067,146	5,992,767	5,911,182	5,894,140	5,894,121	
West Virginia	1,815,354	1,811,440	1,805,230	1,801,824	1,807,436	1,808,350	1,808,344	
Wisconsin	5,509,026	5,474,290	5,440,367	5,405,905	5,374,392	5,363,715	5,363,675	
Wyoming	506,529	502,111	499,192	494,118	494,135	493,782	493,782	
Puerto Rico	3,894,855	3,877,881	3,859,606	3,839,190	3,815,909	3,808,603	3,808,610	
Note: The April 1, 2000 Population Estimates base reflects changes to the Census 2000 population from the Count Question Resolution program and geographic program revisions. Dash (-) represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable								
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